

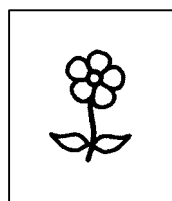
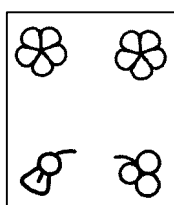
Queen Victoria - Surface Printed 6d Issues.

The 6d surface printed stamp, printed by Thomas De La Rue and introduced **21st October 1856**, was a direct replacement for the embossed 6d stamp introduced on 1st March 1854. The design consisted of the Queen's head inside a circle, with the words 'POSTAGE SIX PENCE' above and below. Plate 1 was registered on 29th March 1856, and printed from, but plate 2 was not registered, so presumed to have been defective.

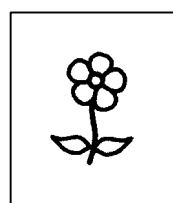


Plate 3 was the same as plate 1 except for the addition of small white corner letters, and a *hyphen* between the words 'SIX PENCE'. The stamp was issued on **1st December 1862**. The next plate, plate 4 (above), also had white 'hair lines' across the corner of each letter square.

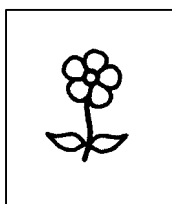
Due to their early nature, none of the stamps above have yet been reported with a Perfin!



The basic design was modified to incorporate a *visible* plate number, and *large white* corner letters against a *coloured* background. Plate 5 was the first to be issued in this new format, and introduced on the **7th March 1865**. Plate 6 followed a year or so later, also printed on 'Emblems' watermarked paper, but on **21st June 1867** the watermark changed to 'Spray'. From plate 8 onwards, the *hyphen was removed*, and introduced on **8th March 1869**. Plates 9 and 10 were also produced in this same format, but plate 10 was never put to press.



Next came a completely new design using a hexagonal shape to replace the circle framing the Queen's head. Plate 11 was the first plate to use this new design, and was introduced on the **12th April 1872** in a new *Chestnut* colour (see above). Plate 12 followed, appearing initially in *Buff* late in 1872, before changing finally to *Grey* (see above), and issued **24th April 1873**.



From **20th March 1874** the corner letters became *coloured* against a *white* background. Plates 13-17 are found with this new arrangement. A change of watermark to 'Imperial Crown' (after a re-arrangement of the printing plate), occurred on **1st January 1881** affecting plates 17 and 18.

The last variety involving the stamp was a change of colour to *Purple*. The stamp was also *overprinted in Carmine* with a large “6d”, which was probably carried out at Somerset House. This so-called ‘Surcharge’ stamp (and a companion 3d stamp) was issued on the *1st January 1883*, but destined to be replaced soon afterwards by the 6d (and 3d) stamps from the ‘Lilac & Green’, issued on *1st April 1884*.



TOTALS for the Surface Printed 6d issues.					
Overall	Different dies (DD) >>	361	DDF >>		639*
Invisible plate numbers.					
		Put to press	Watermark	Colour	
Plate 1	No corner letters	29-Mar-1856	Emblems	Lilac	---
Plate 2		Not registered	---	---	---
Plate 3	Small corner letters	9-Sep-1862	Emblems	Lilac	---
Plate 4	As above + hair lines	11-Apr-1864	Emblems	Lilac	---
Visible plate numbers.					
Plate 5	Large <i>White</i> letters 'SIX-PENCE'	4-Jan-1865	Emblems	Lilac	0
Plate 6		22-Nov-1866	Emblems	Lilac	3
Plate 6		---	Spray	Lilac	
Plate 7	Large <i>White</i> letters 'SIX PENCE'	Not registered	---	---	---
Plate 8		18-Dec-1868	Spray	Mauve	15
Plate 9		3-May-1870	Spray	Mauve	17
Plate 10		Not put to press	---	---	---
Plate 11	Large <i>White</i> letters Hexagonal frame	25-Jan-1872	Spray	Chestnut	33
Plate 12		30-Oct-1872	Spray	Buff	7
Plate 12		---	Spray	Grey	23
Plate 13	Large <i>Coloured</i> letters Hexagonal frame.	'Abnormal'	Spray	Pale Buff	---
Plate 13		11-Dec 1873	Spray	Grey	48
Plate 14		16-Oct-1874	Spray	Grey	43
Plate 15		26-Nov-1875	Spray	Grey	50
Plate 16		2-Nov-1877	Spray	Grey	60
Plate 17		21-Apr-1880	Spray	Grey	84
Plate 17		---	Imperial Crown	Grey	
Plate 18		11-Jan-1881	Imperial Crown	Grey	66
Plate 18	'Surcharge' issue	---	Imperial Crown	Purple	177

* Includes an additional *13* stamps from *plate 12* for which the precise colour is not known. Please note that no attempt has been made to differentiate between the different watermarks found on plates 6 and 17.

Perfin figures are correct to *1st July 2018*.

Perfin die details for the ‘Surcharged’ *3d on 3d* and *6d on 6d* can be found as a separate study.

However, you might be able to help resolve the *colour issues* regarding *plate 12* on the following *13* dies.

	Cat No	Letters	Buff	Grey
1	B0660.01	BBC ^o /C.S		
2	B1475.03	B&C ^o .		
3	D0220.01M	D.B		
4	G0600.01M	G.B.L/L		
5	H6420.01	HSB		
6	H7510.01	HUTTON/&C ^o (Diag)		
7	H7680.01	H.W/C		
8	N0220.01	N.B.		
9	P3710.01	P.P.R/&C ^o ..		
10	S4920.01	SM/&C ^o		
11	T1010.03M	T&C ^o		
12	W2970.01	WGA/&C ^o ..		
13	#0420.01M	533/T.H		

Any additional information you can provide would be greatly appreciated.
Please forward any new details to Roy Gault (Catalogue Editor - contacts as in the Bulletin),
or via e-Mail to Alastair Walter (Webmaster) at perfinsoc@gmail.com